

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Nicholas Charles PARSON et al.  
Serial No.: not yet assigned  
Filed : concurrently herewith  
For : ALUMINIUM ALLOY AND EXTRUSION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

1185 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, N.Y. 10036  
February 1, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

Please amend the above-identified continuation application, which is being filed concurrently herewith, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, line 4 (between the title and the first line of text), add the following:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

--This application is a continuation of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/142,301 filed September 4, 1998, as the U.S. national stage of international application No. PCT/GB97/01040 filed April 15, 1997.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Add the following claims:

--9. A method of producing a population of aluminum alloy billets comprising performing more than one cast of metal from a body of molten metal comprising virgin metal and recycled scrap wherein said body has a composition within a specification such

that every billet of the population has a composition (in wt %) of:

<b>Constituent</b>	<b>Range</b>
Fe	<0.35
Si	0.20 - 0.6
Mn	<0.10
Mg	0.25 - 0.9
Cu	<0.015
Ti	<0.10
Cr	<0.10
Zn	<0.03

balance Al of commercial purity.

--10. A method of making an extruded section comprising

(a) producing a population of aluminum alloy billets comprising performing more than one cast of metal from a body of molten metal comprising virgin metal and recycled scrap wherein said body has a composition within a specification such that every billet of the population has a composition (in wt %) of:

<b>Constituent</b>	<b>Range</b>
Fe	<0.35
Si	0.20 - 0.6
Mn	<0.10
Mg	0.25 - 0.9
Cu	<0.015
Ti	<0.10
Cr	<0.10
Zn	<0.03

balance Al of commercial purity; and

(b) extruding a billet taken from said population of billets.

--11. A method as claimed in claim 10, including the step of aging the extruded section by heating at 150° - 200°C for a time to develop peak strength.

--12. A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the extruded section is etched to develop a matte surface and then anodised.

--13. A method of producing a population of aluminum alloy billets comprising performing more than one cast of metal from a body of molten metal comprising virgin metal and recycled scrap wherein said body has a composition within a specification such that every billet of the population has a composition (in wt %) of:

Constituent	Range
Fe	0.16 - 0.35
Si	0.4 - 0.6
Mn	0.01 - 0.05
Mg	0.35 - 0.6
Cu	<0.010
Ti	<0.05
Cr	<0.09
Zn	<0.03

balance Al of commercial purity.

--14. A method of making an extruded section comprising  
(a) producing a population of aluminum alloy billets comprising performing more than one cast of metal from a body of molten metal comprising virgin metal and recycled scrap wherein said body has a composition within a specification such that every billet of the population has a composition (in wt %) of:

Constituent	Range
Fe	0.16 - 0.35
Si	0.4 - 0.6
Mn	0.01 - 0.05
Mg	0.35 - 0.6
Cu	<0.010
Ti	<0.05
Cr	<0.09

Zn

<0.03

balance Al of commercial purity; and

(b) extruding a billet taken from said population of billets.

--15. A method as claimed in claim 14, including the step of aging the extruded section by heating at 150° - 200°C for a time to develop peak strength.

--16. A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the extruded section is etched to develop a matte surface and then anodised.--

Cancel claims 1 - 8 inclusive.

#### R E M A R K S

A cross reference to applicants' parent application, of which the present application is a continuation, has been added at the top of p. 1 of the specification as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.78. Claims 1 - 8 have been replaced with claims 9 - 16, which are respectively identical to claims 17 - 24 presented by Amendment, and subsequently cancelled without prejudice, to expedite prosecution, in the aforesaid parent application.

The parent application is the U.S. national stage of an international (PCT) application which was filed April 15, 1997, with claims 1 - 7, and was amended during the international stage on March 11, 1998, to add claim 8. Thus, the parent application contained claims numbered 1 through 8 when it entered the U.S. national stage. The amendment made during the international stage was acknowledged in applicants' executed Declaration in the parent U.S. national stage application. A copy of the Amended Sheet adding claim 8 is attached to the photocopy of the parent application which is being filed concurrently herewith to constitute the present continuation application. Therefore, it is

believed that the continuation application is being filed with claims numbered 1 - 8 (all being cancelled and replaced by this concurrently filed Preliminary Amendment), and that the first of the new claims being added herein should be numbered claim 9.

Entry of the Preliminary Amendment is courteously requested.

Respectfully,

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CLAIMS

1. A population of billets resulting from more than one cast of metal having a specification such that every billet has a composition  
5 (in wt %):

Constituent	Range	Preferred
Fe	< 0.35	0.16 - 0.35
Si	0.20 - 0.6	0.4 - 0.6
Mn	< 0.10	0.01 - 0.05
Mg	0.25 - 0.9	0.35 - 0.6
Cu	< 0.015	< 0.010
Ti	< 0.10	< 0.05
Cr	< 0.10	< 0.09
Zn	< 0.03	< 0.03

balance Al of commercial purity.

2. A billet taken from the population of billets of claim 1.  
3. A method of making an extruded section by extruding the billet according to claim 2.  
10 4. A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the extruded section is aged by heating at 150° - 200°C for a time to develop peak strength.  
5. A method as claimed in claim 3 or claim 4, wherein the extruded section is etched to develop a matte surface and then anodised.  
6. An extruded section made by the method of any one of  
15 claims 3 to 5.  
7. An extruded section as claimed in claim 6, which extruded section has a matte anodised surface  
8. A method of making a population of billets by performing more than one cast of metal having a specification such that every billet  
20 has the composition set out in claim 1.